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- Transmittal Letter (2 pages)  
 Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages)  
& PTO/1449 (7 pages)  
 Cited References 108  
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Serial No.: 09/497,373

Attorney Docket No.: MCTA -004/01 US

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Date: May 18, 2000

Attorney/Secretary: TLE/kn

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By:

  
Kendrick Nguyen

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of Amir ALON, et al.

Serial No.: 09/497,373

Examiner:

Filed: February 3, 2000

Art Unit: 2768

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CREATING AND MANAGING GROUPS  
FOR INCREASING BUYING POWER ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL**

1. Transmitted herewith are:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- PTO Form 1449
- Copies of publications listed on the PTO Form 1449
- English translation of foreign language reference(s)
- No copies of publications listed on the PTO Form 1449 are being provided as this application claims continuation status to application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and copies of the listed publications were provided in the parent application.
- Copy of foreign examination report
- English translation of foreign examination report

2.  This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the later of:
- three months from the filing date of this national application;
- three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or
- the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no fee is required.

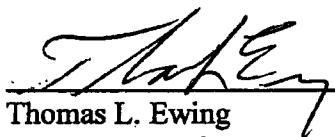
3. Fees

- No fee is required.
- Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 03-3117 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment of the patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 03-3117.

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Respectfully submitted,  
COOLEY GODWARD LLP

By:

  
Thomas L. Ewing  
Reg. No. 34,328

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to bring any information which may be material to patentability of this application to the Examiner's attention.

Applicant makes no representation that a search has been conducted by the Applicant, or that there is not possibly more relevant art. Applicant also makes no representation that the information submitted herewith is in fact material.

- No copies enclosed: The publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 have been previously cited by or submitted to the PTO as recited in the Information Disclosure Statement Transmittal that accompanies this paper. In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), no copies of these publications are being provided.
- Copies enclosed: Copies of the publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 are being provided with this Information Disclosure Statement.

- The enclosed publications were cited in a foreign examination report in a related case. A copy of the search report and the cited references are attached hereto.
- The search report is not in the English language and a translation of the search report is enclosed.
- At least one of the enclosed publications is not in the English language.
- English translation(s) are enclosed.
- Enclosed is an explanation of the relevance of non-English publications for which an English translation is not available.
- The explanation is in the form of an English language search report.

The entities which have a duty to disclose relevant information to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 37 CFR 1.56 have a belief that third parties may possibly have pending applications directed towards the same general subject matter as the subject matter of the present application. However, these applications are secret in nature, and copies of the applications are not available to the applicants or their representatives. Thus, Applicants are not able to provide copies of the applications with this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") and they do not know the actual subject matter of these third party applications.

Therefore, in accordance with the duty of disclosure, applicants are providing publications, listed on the attached Form PTO 1449, which proclaim that third parties have patent applications. Descriptions of the possible applications which may be related to the present application are set forth below with reference to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449, where applicable. The information provided herein may allow the PTO to identify the third party applications, and determine if they are prior art, and/or relevant to the present application including to determine if they are relevant for interference purposes. The possible third party applications are:

1. An Application to James Grossman, who is believed to be represented by Thomas E. Spath (Reg. No. 25,928), of Abelman, Frayne, & Schwab in New York, New York.
2. An Application assigned to VolumeBuy and/or Innovative Concepts Group, Inc., possibly entitled "Public Network-Based Order Pooling System," possibly filed on January 19, 1999 and naming as inventors Emanuel Leibzon, Valentina Leibzon, and/or Greg Perlman, with the attorneys of record possibly being Knobbe, Martens, Olson, and Bear LLP of Newport Beach, California.
3. An Application to Matthew Pallakoff, entitled "On-Line Marketing System and Method," believed to claim priority from provisional applications 60/097,932 and

60/097,933, both filed on August 25, 1998 and assigned to Accompany, Inc. Accompany, Inc. is believed to have changed its name to Mobshop, Inc. (Applicants have enclosed a copy of PCT No. WO 00/11570, listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 as F1, to assist the Examiner in determining if such an application exists.)

4. An Application assigned to Accompany, Inc. for which Accompany, now known as MobShop, has received a Notice of Allowance. The application is discussed on mobshop's website at [http://www.mobshop.com/press\\_release?release=20](http://www.mobshop.com/press_release?release=20), a copy of which is attached, and listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 as D66.

5. Two utility applications filed on July 7, 1999 by iCoop, Inc, based upon provisional patent applications filed on January 22, 1999. The applications are discussed on iCoop's website at [http://www.icoop.com/press\\_pressreleases2.htm](http://www.icoop.com/press_pressreleases2.htm), a copy of which is attached, and listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 as D67.

6. An application assigned to beMANY!, Inc., filing date unknown, possibly naming George Jankovic, Mircea Mihaescu, William Robinson, Virginia Bonker, Bradley Feld, Michael Hagan, Thomas Gieselmann, Patti Manual Hart, and/or Charles Katzas as inventors. See the press release from beMANY! included with this IDS and listed on the Form PTO 1449 as D68.

7. An application assigned to BazaarE.com, Inc., possibly naming Dr. Bala Veeramacheneni, Anil Kadiyala, Srikanth Chimata, Vishy Ganti, and Vamsi Naidu as inventors, and/or possibly listing Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati as attorneys of record. See the press release from BazaarE.com, Inc. included with this IDS and listed on the Form PTO 1449 as D69.

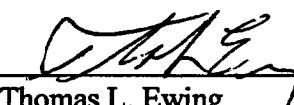
8. An Application to Yossi Gliksman on an "Aggregator Driven" business model.

The subject application is believed patentable over any of the above references.

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Enclosures: 1. Form PTO 1449  
2. Copies of references cited on Form PTO-1449

Respectfully submitted,  
COOLEY GODWARD LLP

  
Thomas L. Ewing  
Reg. No. 34,328

By:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT:  
Amir ALON, et al.FILING DATE  
February 03, 2000 GROUP  
2768

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
P1	3,581,072	05/25/71	Nymeyer			
P2	4,567,359	01/28/86	Lockwood			
P3	4,789,928	06 Dec 1988	Fujisaki			
P4	4,949,248	08/14/90	Caro			
P5	5,148,365	09/15/92	Dembo			
P6	5,255,184	19 Oct 1993	Hornick, et al.			
P7	5,270,921	14 Dec 1993	Hornick			
P8	5,377,095	12/27/94	Maeda et al.			
P9	5,576,951	11/19/96	Lockwood			
P10	5,640,569	06/17/97	Miller et al.			
P11	5,712,985	01/27/98	Lee et al.			
P12	5,724,521	03/03/98	Dedrick			
P13	5,729,700	17 Mar 1998	Melnikoff			
P14	5,745,882	04/28/98	Bixler et al.			
P15	5,758,327	05/26/98	Gardner et al.			
P16	5,758,328	May 26, 1998	Giovannoli			

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\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP  
 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformation and not considered. Include a copy of this form  
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Amir ALON, et al.FILING DATE  
February 03, 2000GROUP  
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	P17	5,765,143	06/09/98	Sheldon et al.			
	P18	5,794,207	11 Aug 1998	Walker, et al.			
	P19	5,794,219	Aug. 11, 1998	Brown			
	P20	5,797,127	18 Aug 1998	Walker, et al.			
	P21	5,799,284	Aug. 25, 1998	Bourquin			
	P22	5,806,047	09/08/98	Hackel et al.			
	P23	5,809,144	Sept.15, 1998	Sirbu, et al.			
	P24	5,818,914	10/06/98	Fujisaki			
	P25	5,826,244	Oct. 20, 1998	Hubermann			
	P26	5,832,459	11/03/98	Cameron et al.			
	P27	5,835,896	10 Nov 1998	Fisher, et al.			
	P28	5,842,178	Nov. 24, 1998	Giovannoli			
	P29	5,845,265	01 Dec 1998	Woolston			
	P30	5,845,266	12/01/98	Lupien et al.			
	P31	5,890,138	Mar. 30, 1999	Godin, et al.			
	P32	5,895,454	04/20/99	Harrington			
	P33	5,897,639	04/27/99	Greef et al.			
	P34	5,915,209	06/22/99	Lawrence			

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	P35	5,950,176	09/07/99	Keiser et al.				
	P36	5,956,709	09/21/99	Xue				
	P37	5,983,199	11/09/99	Kaneko				
	P38	6,000,826	12/14/99	Parunak et al.				
	P39							
	P40							
	P41							
	P42							
	P43							

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	F1	WO 00/11570	03/02/00	PCT				
	F2							

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

D1	Letter from Woolcott dated August 31, 1999 and Search Report
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D2	Dialog , The Gale Group Newsletter, "New Twist to Online Shopping: Service Hopes to Break Customer Apathy," Internet Week, 1(7), 22-May-1995
D3	Dialog , The Gale Group Newsletter, "In Year 2020, Auctions and Agents to Rule Web," Newsbytes, 23-Mar-1998
D4	Dialog, "New Tricks in Pet Supplies" by Minkoff, J., Discount Merchandiser, 34(12)70-72, 1994
D5	Online Document from Software Patent Institute Database of Software Technology, <a href="http://m.spi.org/">http://m.spi.org/</a> , Record 1: "Management Data Processing," Serial No. acmr6512.0039, Printed 20-Sep-1999
D6	Online Document from Software Patent Institute Database of Software Technology, <a href="http://m.spi.org/">http://m.spi.org/</a> , Record 2: "Management Science," Serial No. ACMGCL89.1066, Printed 20-Sep-1999
D7	Online Document from Software Patent Institute Database of Software Technology, <a href="http://m.spi.org/">http://m.spi.org/</a> , Record 17: "Distribution Resource Planning," Serial No. HPAPPS.2620, Printed 20-Sep-1999
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D9	Online Document from Agorics, Inc., <a href="http://www.agorics.com/">http://www.agorics.com/</a> , Sections: "A Survey of Auctions," "English Auction," "A Dutch Auction," "The First Price Auction," "The Vickrey Auction," "The Double Auction," "Auction Offshoots," "Auction Strategies," "Auction Histories," "Government Securities-Auctioned Off," "Collusion in Auctions," "Auction Bibliography," Dated 1996, Reprinted 25-Oct-99
D10	Online Document from Forbes.com, <a href="http://www.forbes.com">http://www.forbes.com</a> , Forbes Global, Computer Science Section of 28-Dec-98, "Coming Soon-Cyber Co-ops" by Karlgaard, Printed 16-Nov-99
D11	Management and Specialist Team, LetsBuyIt.com, <a href="http://www.euroferret.com">http://www.euroferret.com</a> , Jan 15, 1999; Online Document, <a href="http://www.alumni.se/e-commerce/default.htm">http://www.alumni.se/e-commerce/default.htm</a> , Jan. 15, 1999, Printed 19-Nov-1999
D12	Online Document from Bid.com, <a href="http://www.bid.com/dutch">http://www.bid.com/dutch</a> , Printed 03-Sep-1999
D13	Online Document from Bullnet Online Auctions, <a href="http://www.bullnet.co.uk/auctions/info.htm">http://www.bullnet.co.uk/auctions/info.htm</a> , Printed 03-Sep-1999
D14	Online Document from Who's Who for The Commerce Standard, <a href="http://www.gii.com/standard/who/index.html">http://www.gii.com/standard/who/index.html</a> . Printed 19-Nov-1999
D15	Online Document from Cooperative Educational Service Agency, <a href="http://www.cesa5.k12.wi.us/buying.htm">http://www.cesa5.k12.wi.us/buying.htm</a> , Printed 20-Sep-1999
D16	Online Document from Franklin Regional Council Governments, <a href="http://www.frcog.or/purch.html">http://www.frcog.or/purch.html</a> , Printed 20-Sep-1999
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D18	Online Document, ComputerSweden, "Icon-grundare satsar närmare halv miljard på e-handel," <a href="http://nyheter.idg.se">http://nyheter.idg.se</a> , 23 Jan 1999 (w/English translation)
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D21	Online Document from Accompany: About Team, <a href="http://www.accompany.com/about_press_faq.asp">http://www.accompany.com/about_press_faq.asp</a> , Printed 03 Mar 1999
D22	Online Document from Accompany: About US, <a href="http://www.accompany.com/about_press_0.asp">http://www.accompany.com/about_press_0.asp</a> , Printed 03 Mar 1999
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D29	Online Document from Accompany: About US, <a href="http://www.accompany.com/about_press_background.asp">http://www.accompany.com/about_press_background.asp</a> , Printed 03 Mar 1999
D30	Online Document from ZDNN, <a href="http://www.zdnet.com/stories/news">http://www.zdnet.com/stories/news</a> , Printed 03 Mar 1999
D31	NewsAlert, "Accompany, Inc. to Revolutionize Commerce; Buys Come Together for Best Value," <a href="http://www.accompany.com">http://www.accompany.com</a> , Printed 03 Mar 1999
D32	Online Document from Yahoo, "Web startup pushes volume shopping," <a href="http://dailynews.yahoo.com">http://dailynews.yahoo.com</a> , Printed 04 Mar 1999
D33	Abstract, World Reporter, Dagens Industri, "Expected success for internet shopping," WL 5900897, 12 Mar 1999
D34	U.S. Application No. 60/119,220 Filing Receipt and Specification, "A method and apparatus for creating and managing groups for increasing buying power on the World Wide Web," 08 Feb 1999
D35	Article from Sportfack, "Letsbuyit.com Kommer," 12 Feb 1999

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D36	IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Multi-Product Delivery System Optimization Procedure," 38(4):502-503, Apr-1995
D37	Kroll et al., "World Weary Web," <u>Forbes</u> , 28-Dec-98, pp. 98-100
D38	Pant et al., "Business on the Web: Strategies and Economics," Fifth International WWW Conference, May/6-10/1996, Paris, France
D39	Rockoff et al., "Design of an Internet-based System for Remote Dutch Auctions," <u>Internet Research: Electronic Networking Applications and Policy</u> , 5(4):10-16, 1995
D40	Stang et al., "Scans" Section, <u>Wired</u> , September 1995, pp. 51, 54, 56 and 58
D41	Woolley, "Price War!," <u>Forbes</u> , 14-Dec-1998, pp. 182 and 184
D42	Online Document from OCM, <a href="http://www.cynric.org/OCM/administration/management/services/coop.html">http://www.cynric.org/OCM/administration/management/services/coop.html</a> , Printed 20-Sep-1999
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D45	Online Document from hotjobs.com, "Filenet Corporation," <a href="http://www.hotjobs.com">http://www.hotjobs.com</a> , Printed 24 Mar 1999
D46	Online Document from The Revenue Management Home Page, "Revenue Management Defined," <a href="wysiwyg://212/http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Floor/4921/">wysiwyg://212/http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Floor/4921/</a> , Printed 18 Mar 1999
D47	Online Document from The Revenue Management Home Page, "Articles on Revenue Management," <a href="wysiwyg://212/http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Floor/4921/articles.htm">wysiwyg://212/http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Floor/4921/articles.htm</a> , Printed 18 Mar 1999
X D48	Online Document from The Revenue Management Home Page, "Companies Practicing Revenue Management," <a href="wysiwyg://212/http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Floor/4921/rmcomps.htm">wysiwyg://212/http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Floor/4921/rmcomps.htm</a> , Printed 18 Mar 1999
D49	Online Document from Revenue Management Systems, Inc., "What is Revenue Management?" <a href="http://www.revenuemangement.com/whatism.htm">http://www.revenuemangement.com/whatism.htm</a> , Printed 19 Mar 1999
D50	Online Document from profitoptim.com, "Definition of Revenue Management," <a href="http://www.profitoptim.com/papersdirectory/rmdaybrief/sld063.htm">http://www.profitoptim.com/papersdirectory/rmdaybrief/sld063.htm</a> , Printed 19 Mar 1999
D51	Online Document from profitoptim.com, "What is Revenue Management (cont.)?" <a href="http://www.profitoptim.com/papersdirectory/resexpo97/sld006.htm">http://www.profitoptim.com/papersdirectory/resexpo97/sld006.htm</a> , Printed 19 Mar 1999
D52	Online Document from American Way, "How Airline Pricing Works," <a href="http://www.aa.com/away/Vantage/Vantage-may98.htm">http://www.aa.com/away/Vantage/Vantage-may98.htm</a> , Printed 18 Mar 1999
D53	Online Document from Airline Discount, <a href="http://faculty.darden.edu/pfeifexp/airline.htm">http://faculty.darden.edu/pfeifexp/airline.htm</a> , Printed 18 Mar 1999

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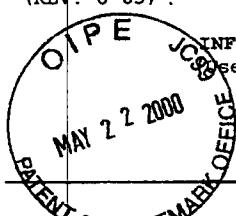
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February 03, 2000GROUP  
2768

D54	Online Document from The Innovation Network, "1994 Innovation Collection," <a href="http://198.49.220.47/texis/si/sc/i.e/+KoeMUi3WwBme+It0X0www/full.html">http://198.49.220.47/texis/si/sc/i.e/+KoeMUi3WwBme+It0X0www/full.html</a> , Printed 19 Mar 1999
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P1	3,581,072	05/25/71	Ny Meyer			
P2	4,567,359	01/28/86	Lockwood			
P3	4,789,928	06 Dec 1988	Fujisaki			
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P15	5,758,327	05/26/98	Gardner et al.			
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FY	P18	5,794,207	11 Aug 1998	Walker, et al.				
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						YES	NO
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	F2						

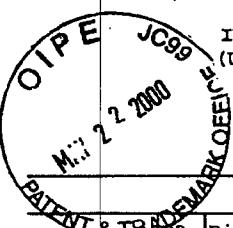
## OTHER PUBLICATIONS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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*Pat Thompson*

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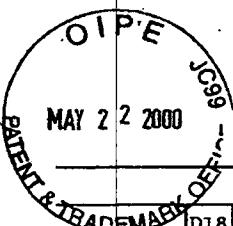
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17	D41	Woolley, "Price War!," <u>Forbes</u> , 14-Dec-1998, pp. 182 and 184
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